

WINTER VEHICLE SAFETY

Due to the ice and snow, vehicle accidents are the leading cause of winter storm related deaths. Indiana doesn't battle large winter storms every year, but it only takes a little ice or snow to make driving conditions hazardous. Practicing caution and taking action before an emergency happens will help keep the situation less stressful.

WINTER DRIVING SAFETY TIPS

Here are some winter driving safety tips:

- Before leaving, check weather reports on local news stations and check the county travel status map.
- Drive well below the posted speed limit and leave plenty of room between cars.
- Stay attentive and reduce speeds during times of limited visibility.
- Do not tailgate or try to pass snowplows.
- Allow for more braking time on slick and snowy roads.
- Take it slow when approaching intersections, off-ramps, bridges or shady areas in case of black ice.
- Share the planned destination, route and expected arrival time with someone.
- Keep windows, mirrors, headlights, taillights and brake lights clear of snow and ice.

VEHICLE EMERGENCY KIT

Driving when weather conditions are poor can be dangerous. Stock up on a few items just in case an emergency occurs.

- Portable phone charger
- Extra blankets or a sleeping bag
- Jumper cables
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Ice scraper and snow brush
- Bag of sand
- Non-perishable food
- Water
- Spare clothes, mittens, scarves, hats
- Shovel



MECHANIC'S CHECKLIST

Snow and ice can make road conditions slick and dangerous. Make driving in winter slightly easier by having a mechanic check the following items on every vehicle.

- Brakes
- Heater
- Defroster
- Battery
- Tires
- Oil
- Belts and hoses
- Windshield wipers
- Antifreeze levels
- Headlights, taillights and hazard lights

